

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. national phase of)	
PCT/IB2004/002931)	
)	Group Art Unit: 3662
)	
Inventor: Kyoichi ABE et al.)	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
)	
Application No.: 10/560,307)	
)	
Filed: December 12, 2005)	
)	
For: OBJECT DETECTION SYSTEM)	
AND METHOD OF DETECTING)	
OBJECT)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the International Search Report (copy attached). To the best of undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-referenced application. Further, each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

English Abstracts of the non-English language documents are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

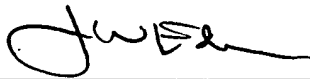
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 15, 2006

By: 
James W. Edmondson
Reg. No. 33,871

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			<i>Application Number</i>	Not Assigned	
			<i>Filing Date</i>	December 12, 2005	
			<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Kyoichi ABE et al.	
			<i>Art Unit</i>	Not Assigned	
			<i>Examiner Name</i>	Not Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	07057.0115-00

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2003-99762	04/04/03	Takizawa		Abstract
		JP 8-329393	12/13/96	Yamada		Abstract
		JP 2003-168197	06/13/03	Takenaga et al.		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Japanese Official Action dated October 3, 2006	Yes

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.